

Rev. Sullivan built a bridge between America and Africa by organizing the five African/African-American Summits that were held in Africa. The first summit was in the Cote d'Ivoire and drew 2,000 people and the last was in Accra, Ghana with 4,200 people attending from throughout the United States and Africa. The last summit included 12 African heads of state, five vice presidents and prime ministers, and 14 delegations led by ministers of state. From the business community, more than 300 American businesses were represented.

The life's work of Rev. Leon Sullivan charted a course and paved the way for hope, opportunity, and fulfillment for many African-Americans in Philadelphia, across the Nation, and throughout the world. In memorializing Rev. Sullivan, we celebrate his monumental contributions and achievements as a civil rights leader and a human rights advocate.●

DR. STEPHEN R. PORTCH: CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I rise before you on this day to recognize the outstanding achievements, hard work, and dedication of Dr. Stephen R. Portch, the ninth Chancellor of the University System of Georgia. This day should be both celebrated and lamented, for it is a delight to honor my good friend, Chancellor Portch, yet saddening to bid the Chancellor farewell.

John Stuart Mill, a revered philosopher, political scientist, and educator, left an indelible mark on his students at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, where he once said, "There is nothing which spreads more contagiously from teacher to pupil than elevation of sentiment: Often and often have students caught from the living influence of a professor a noble ambition to leave the world better than they found it;" This is just what Chancellor Portch has done; he has helped make the world a better place. As a professor of English Literature Dr. Portch has enriched and inspired the lives of many individuals. He has awakened students' dormant interest in literature and the world around them. Together with the Georgia Board of Regents, the governing body of the University System, Dr. Portch has continued to promote education and has made tremendous improvements to the Georgia University System.

Chancellor Portch, a native of Somerset, England, earned his Bachelor's Degree in English from the University of Reading in England, and a Master's and Ph.D in English from Penn State. Richmond University in England granted Dr. Portch an honorary doctorate, and he was named by *Change*, The Magazine of Higher Learning as

one of its "21 Most Influential Voices." Georgia Trend magazine has repeatedly identified Dr. Portch as one of the most powerful and influential citizens in our State, and the Atlanta Business Chronicle placed Dr. Portch on its list of the "100 Most Influential Atlantans." Dr. Portch served on former U.S. Education Secretary Richard Riley's National Commission on the High School Senior Year. Stephen R. Portch has been a familiar and lauded name in the literary world and has become a very well recognized and respected name in Georgia.

The University System and the Georgia Board of Regents are committed to improving higher education, and in 1994, under Dr. Portch's leadership, the Board adopted the program, "Access to Academic Excellence for the New Millennium." In 1995, Chancellor Portch introduced another new policy directed at the need for reform in an effort to recognize that all sectors of education are vitally linked and that improvement in one sector requires a reciprocal effort in all other sectors. Dr. Portch implemented a new admissions policy, raising the bar for admissions in all 34 public institutions in Georgia. The work of Chancellor Portch has helped elevate the average SAT score in Georgia public institutions, increase member school salaries by over 35 percent, and has raised overall quality of education throughout the state.

Henry Brooks Adams once said, "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops." Although Dr. Portch is stepping down as Chancellor of the University System, I assure you that we will continue to feel his presence and benefit from his service well into the future.●

GEORGE C. SPRINGER: PRESIDENT, CONNECTICUT STATE FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today with great pride to honor my friend and a friend of working families, Mr. George C. Springer, who is retiring as president of the Connecticut State Federation of Teachers. For more than 20 years, George fought valiantly to ensure that our educators had the tools and resources necessary to provide the best possible education to our most prized possession, our children.

Widely known for his leadership, George united teachers and administrators in seeking ways to improve our schools. His innovative style led to compromise and understanding and opened a dialogue that generated ideas aimed at helping our children. During his tenure, Connecticut's public schools have attained a reputation of excellence that continues today.

George's calm, well thought out ways of handling the issues facing our teachers and schools is testament of his vi-

sionary leadership style. Further, his abilities in bringing people together to work for an important goal serve as a model for labor union leadership across our nation.

On behalf of the people of Connecticut, I thank George for his leadership in making Connecticut's schools better places to teach and learn and for making our community a better place for everyone.●

RECOGNITION OF THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF JOHN C. TITCHNER

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today on behalf of myself and Senator LEAHY to honor John C. Titchner, Vermont's State Resource Conservationist, who is retiring after thirty-six years with the United States Department of Agriculture.

John Titchner's career is among the most distinguished in the history of the Soil Conservation Service and the Natural Resource Conservation Service, NRCS. He began his work with the USDA in 1965, and has served as Vermont State Conservationist since 1981. At the time of his retirement, he was the longest serving among all active State Conservationists.

John has guided the Natural Resource Conservation Service in Vermont through many changes in agricultural policy and administration. Under his direction, the NRCS has handled an ever increasing number of programs and special projects to support farmers and conserve our natural resources. The lakes and streams of Vermont are clearer and cleaner today as a result of his work.

For many years, Senator LEAHY and I have each looked to John as an advisor on agriculture and conservation. In this role, he has had a significant impact on national agricultural policy.

John has assumed many leadership roles in his profession and in his community. These include serving as a member of the Lake Champlain Steering Committee, Chairman of the Vermont Food and Agricultural Council, and President of the Vermont Federal Executives Association.

John C. Titchner's career stands as an outstanding example for all who choose to serve their community and their country.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:53 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1183. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 113 South Main Street in Sylvania, Georgia, as the "G. Elliot Hagan Post Office Building."